



State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

REPRESENTATIVE KURT VAIL
FIFTY-SECOND ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM 4200
300 CAPITOL AVENUE
HARTFORD, CT 06106-1591

CAPITOL: (860) 240-8700
TOLL FREE: (800) 842-1423
Kurt.Vail@housegop.ct.gov

MEMBER

INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE
LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES COMMITTEE
PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 19, 2015

General Law Committee

Public Hearing Testimony in Support of House Bill 5033

"An Act Allowing Cider Manufacturers to Offer Free Tastings on Permit Premises."

Good afternoon Chairman Leone, Chairman Baram, Ranking Member Witkos, Ranking Member Carter and other honorable members of the General Law Committee. I am Representative Kurt Vail of Stafford. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding HB 5033.

Under current law, manufacturers of beer and wine are authorized to provide tastings of free samples of their products that are brewed on the premises. They are also authorized to sell bottles of these products for consumption outside of the premises. We are seeking to extend this law to also cover manufacturers of cider.

This will allow cider manufacturers the same opportunity that we give to those in the beer and wine industry to promote their products. Cider manufacturing is growing in Connecticut, and by giving these manufacturers equal treatment as others in the alcoholic beverage industry, we will promote business and encourage development of these companies.

Thank you again for allowing me to provide testimony on this bill, and I urge your support in moving this legislation forward.